

California Field Crop Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: June 16, 2000

(USPS 598-270)
VOL. 21 NO. 6



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Wheat Forecast and Fall Potato Stocks	1
Cotton Ginnings	2
Field Crop Prices	3

The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production for states other than Arizona and California will not be available until July 12, 2000.

WHEAT FORECAST

The California winter wheat forecast, at 861 thousand tons, is 1 percent below 1999. Acreage harvested for grain is 5 percent below last year. Harvest began in the Imperial Valley and will move northward through the State. Yields are expected to be 2.46 tons per acre, up 5 percent from 1999.

U.S. Winter wheat production is forecast at 48.7 million tons, down 5 percent from June 1999. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 1.40 tons per acre, down 2 percent from 1999. Harvested area is forecast at 34.7 million acres, down 2 percent from 1999.

California's Durum wheat production is forecast at 217 thousand tons, 19 percent below 1999. Acreage expected for harvest, at 76.0 thousand, is 11 percent below last year. The expected yield of 2.85 tons per acre is down 10 percent from 1999. Harvest in the Imperial Valley began in earnest in early May. The warm, dry weather has matured the crop rapidly. The San Joaquin Valley harvest was underway on a few fields by mid-May. Harvest in the desert valleys was approximately 60 percent complete as of June 1.

TOP PRODUCING COUNTIES OF 1999 FOR ALL WHEAT TONNAGE PRODUCED

KINGS	168,930
FRESNO	138,810
IMPERIAL	130,200
KERN	123,270
TULARE	95,130
YOLO	86,400
SOLANO	58,230
SAN JACUIN	48,030
RIVERSIDE	46,110
COLUSA	41,820
GLENN	27,540
SUTTER	23,790
SISKIYOU	22,950
MADERA	22,830

WHEAT ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, JUNE 1, 2000

Crop and Location		Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
		1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
		1,000 Acres		Tons		1,000 Tons	
WINTER	California	370	350	2.34	2.46	866	861
	U.S.	35,572	34,709	1.43	1.40	51,000	48,659
DURUM	California	85	76	3.15	2.85	268	217
	Arizona	75	80	2.91	2.85	218	228
	U.S.	3,569	a/	0.83	a/	2,980	a/

a/ Area harvested will be published June 30, 2000. Yield and production will be published July 12, 2000.

JUNE 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's potato stocks totaled 700 thousand cwt. on June 1, 2000, up 17 percent from last year. Stocks represented 17 percent of fall potato production compared to 16 percent of the previous year.

The 15 major potato states held 46.7 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on June 1, 2000, down 7 percent from last year. Stocks accounted for 11 percent of the 1999 fall production, down 1 percent from a year ago. Disappearance of 374 million cwt. for the season, is slightly above last year, including 3 percent higher shrinkage and loss. Processing, at 183 million cwt., is down 2 percent from last year.

Western states held 38.4 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on June 1, up 1 percent from last year. Oregon's stocks were up 43 percent from a year ago, Colorado's stocks were up 28 percent, and California's storage gained 17 percent. Fewer stocks in Idaho and Washington nearly offset gains in the other three western states. Stocks in Idaho were down 9 percent and Washington's stocks were off 7 percent. Stocks in the three northwestern states totaled 34.0 million cwt. and accounted for 73 percent of the remaining U. S. stocks.

JUNE 1 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS 1/

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 1999	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 2000	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
CA	3,708	600	16	4,005	700	17
CO	25,360	2,900	11	25,762	3,700	14
ID	138,000	23,000	17	133,330	21,000	16
ME	18,060	1,900	11	17,813	2,300	13
MI 1/	14,648	---	---	14,963	---	---
MN	21,170	2,500	12	18,020	1,900	11
MT 1/	3,180	---	---	3,325	---	---
NE 1/	8,175	---	---	8,904	---	---
NY 1/	7,290	---	---	6,758	---	---
ND	28,670	4,500	16	26,400	1,500	6
OH 1/	1,200	---	---	987	---	---
OR	26,229	4,200	16	28,020	6,000	21
PA 1/	3,360	---	---	3,080	---	---
WA	93,225	7,500	8	95,200	7,000	7
WI	30,895	3,000	10	34,000	2,100	6
Other States	---	170	---	---	470	---
15-STATE TOTAL	423,170	50,270	12	420,567	46,670	11

1/ Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania are combined into "Other States."

1999 U.S. COTTON GINNING

A total of 16.5 million running bales were ginned during the 1999 season, 22 percent above 1998's 13.5 million bales. Planting activities for 1999 were delayed in the West due to unseasonably cool weather and in the Southeast due to extremely dry conditions. Warm, dry weather in the Delta allowed for accelerated development, but resulted in some deterioration of the condition and quality of the cotton. Harvest progressed well throughout most of the cotton belt, although brief delays were experienced in the High Plains due to cool temperatures and in the Carolina's due to excessively wet, muddy fields.

During the 1999 season, 1,084 cotton gins were active, down from the 1,113 operated in 1998. Three hundred thirty-three ginning firms processed more than 20,000 bales in 1999, compared to 251 the previous season.

COTTON GINNING: RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS) BY TYPE, STATE AND UNITED STATES, CROP YEARS 1996-99

Type and State	1996	1997	1998	1999
Bales				
ALL COTTON				
Alabama	755,850	529,100	538,500	620,650
Arizona	812,850	844,350	600,750	695,900
Arkansas	1,593,150	1,627,600	1,172,600	1,390,300
California	2,687,550	2,558,400	1,466,400	2,127,350
Florida ^{1/}	---	---	---	---
Georgia	2,041,500	1,884,400	1,516,450	1,524,050
Kansas ^{1/}	---	---	---	---
Louisiana	1,299,450	1,001,950	652,750	918,950
Mississippi	1,819,250	1,766,450	1,400,900	1,680,400
Missouri	557,250	547,250	337,750	450,150
New Mexico	89,600	79,900	69,600	59,250
North Carolina	985,100	911,350	1,006,700	802,550
Oklahoma	126,100	178,100	138,450	139,500
South Carolina	434,000	389,900	334,200	265,000
Tennessee	664,100	646,850	530,600	574,300
Texas	4,294,450	5,080,350	3,558,550	5,020,450
Virginia	153,000	131,400	133,850	133,950
UNITED STATES	18,438,550	18,301,050	13,533,950	16,528,050
AMERICAN-PIMA				
Arizona	72,450	41,200	25,400	16,000
California	360,200	422,450	340,550	580,100
New Mexico	14,450	10,400	6,750	6,500
Texas	62,900	57,150	54,050	47,550
UNITED STATES	510,000	531,200	426,750	650,150

^{1/} Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in U.S. totals.

CALIFORNIA COTTON GINNINGS: ALL COTTON RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS), EQUIVALENT 480-POUND BALES GINNED, RUNNING BALES PRODUCED BY COUNTY, AND U.S. COUNTY RANK, 1999 CROP

County	Running Bales Ginned	Equivalent 480-Pound Bales Ginned	Running Bales Produced	U.S. Rank by Running Bales Produced
Colusa ^{1/}	---	---	14,750	231
Fresno	757,950	788,750	749,850	1
Glenn ^{1/}	---	---	---	469
Imperial ^{1/}	---	---	27,850	150
Kern	402,850	416,050	459,050	2
Kings	446,500	461,400	430,350	3
Madera ^{1/}	---	---	61,500	71
Merced	158,450	164,150	173,450	14
Riverside ^{1/}	---	---	32,850	128
San Bernardino	---	---	1,500	446
Sutter ^{1/}	---	---	1,200	466
Tehama ^{1/}	---	---	---	595
Tulare	206,350	212,250	152,000	20
Yolo	---	---	2,300	402
STATE TOTAL	2,127,350	2,202,550	2,107,900	---

^{1/} Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in State total.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - MAY 2000

Mid-May prices received by California farmers increased from April for hay other than alfalfa. Prices for barley, dry edible beans, all potatoes, and fall potatoes were below the previous month's level. All hay and alfalfa hay remained unchanged. Wheat and Upland cotton lint prices were not published in order to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. Prices at mid-May were above a year earlier for barley, all potatoes, spring potatoes, all hay, and hay other than alfalfa. Dry edible beans, fall potatoes, and alfalfa hay were below May 1999's level.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES TWO POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May was 102 based on 1990-92=100, up two points (2.0 percent) from the April index. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities that farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, sweet corn, broilers, and peaches more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, milk, cotton, and asparagus. These marketing changes accounted for the entire May Index increase. Higher prices for lettuce, broccoli, hogs, and hay offset price decreases for strawberries, eggs, cattle, and tomatoes.

Compared with May 1999, the All Farm Products Index was four points (4.1 percent) higher. Since May 1999, price increases for cattle, lettuce, hogs, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for oranges, milk, cantaloupes, and strawberries.

The May All Crops index was 105, up 4.0 percent from April and 1.9 percent above May 1999. Since April, price increases for vegetables, feed grains, hay, and oilseeds more than offset price decreases for fruit and nuts.

The May Food Grains Index, at 86, was unchanged from the previous month, but 4.4 percent below May 1999. The May all wheat price, at \$4.27 per cwt., was down one cent from the April price, but 12 cents above May 1999. The rice price, at \$5.91 per cwt., was up five cents from last month, but \$2.30 below a year earlier.

The May Feed Grains & Hay Index was 95, up 4.4 percent from last month and 2.2 percent above May 1999. The corn price, at \$3.68 per cwt., was up five cents from April and 13 cents above the May 1999 price. The all hay price, at \$89.40 per ton, was up \$8.70 from last month, but \$3.20 below May 1999.

The May Cotton Index, at 76, was unchanged from April, but 16 percent below May 1999. The cotton price, at 45.9 cents per pound, was down 0.1 of a cent from April and 9.1 cents from last May.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{a/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		May 1999	Apr. 2000	May 15, 2000	May 1999	Apr. 2000	May 15, 2000
		Dollars					
Corn ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.55	3.63	3.68
Wheat ^{b/}	Cwt.	4.65	^{c/}	^{c/}	4.15	4.28	4.27
Oats ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.09	4.22	4.22
Barley ^{b/}	Cwt.	4.46	4.96	4.88	3.79	4.35	4.42
Sorghum Grain ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	2.90	3.24	3.23
Rice ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	8.21	5.86	5.91
Dry Edible Beans ^{b/}	Cwt.	37.60	27.00	26.40	19.90	16.60	15.50
All Potatoes ^{d/}	Cwt.	9.65	16.20	11.60	6.18	6.29	6.53
Winter	Cwt.	---	19.30	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	9.65	---	12.80	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	9.80	6.20	5.85	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled ^{b/}	Ton	98.00	100.00	100.00	92.60	80.70	89.40
Alfalfa Hay, Baled ^{b/}	Ton	102.00	101.00	101.00	96.60	84.50	93.90
Other Hay, Baled ^{b/}	Ton	62.00	74.00	85.00	70.10	67.40	71.30
Upland Cotton Lint ^{b/}	Lb.	^{c/}	^{c/}	^{c/}	0.550	0.460	0.459
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

^{a/} The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{b/} Previous month revised to monthly average.

^{c/} Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.

^{d/} Monthly average

INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	May 1999	Apr. 2000	May 2000	May 1999	Apr. 2000	May 2000
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	623	638 ^{a/}	647	98	100 ^{a/}	102
All Crops	510	500 ^{a/}	519	103	101 ^{a/}	105
Food Grains	286	272 ^{a/}	273	90	86 ^{a/}	86
Feed Grains and Hay	332	327 ^{a/}	340	93	91	95
Cotton	465	389 ^{a/}	388	91	76 ^{a/}	76
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	536	530 ^{a/}	543	106	105 ^{a/}	107
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates ^{b/}	1,530	1,509 ^{a/}	1,585	115	119	119
Parity Ratio ^{c/}	41	40	41	85	84 ^{a/}	86

^{a/} Revised.

^{b/} All production indexes as of 15th of month.

^{c/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.